

**199—15.10 (476) Standards for interconnection, safety, and operating reliability.** For purposes of this rule, “electric utility” or “utility” means both rate-regulated and non-rate-regulated electric utilities.

**15.10(1) *Acceptable standards.*** The interconnection of qualifying facilities and AEP facilities and associated interconnection equipment to an electric utility system shall meet the applicable provisions of the publications listed below:

*a.* Standard for Interconnecting Distributed Resources with Electric Power Systems, ANSI/IEEE Standard 1547-2003. For guidance in applying IEEE Standard 1547, the utility may refer to:

(1) IEEE Recommended Practices and Requirements for Harmonic Control in Electrical Power Systems—IEEE Standard 519-1992; and

(2) IEC/TR3 61000-3-7 Assessment of Emission Limits for Fluctuating Loads in MV and HV Power Systems.

*b.* Iowa Electrical Safety Code, as defined in 199—Chapter 25.

*c.* National Electrical Code, ANSI/NFPA 70-2008.

**15.10(2) *Modifications required.*** Rescinded IAB 7/23/03, effective 8/27/03.

**15.10(3) *Interconnection facilities.***

*a.* The utility may require the distributed generation facility to have the capability to be isolated from the utility, either by means of a lockable, visible-break isolation device accessible by the utility, or by means of a lockable isolation device whose status is indicated and is accessible by the utility. If an isolation device is required by the utility, the device shall be installed, owned, and maintained by the owner of the distributed generation facility and located electrically between the distributed generation facility and the point of interconnection. A draw-out type of circuit breaker accessible to the utility with a provision for padlocking at the drawn-out position satisfies the requirement for an isolation device.

*b.* The interconnection shall include overcurrent devices on the facility to automatically disconnect the facility at all currents that exceed the full-load current rating of the facility.

*c.* Facilities with a design capacity of 100 kilowatts or less must be equipped with automatic disconnection upon loss of electric utility-supplied voltage.

*d.* Those facilities that produce a terminal voltage prior to the closure of the interconnection shall be provided with synchronism-check devices to prevent closure of the interconnection under conditions other than a reasonable degree of synchronization between the voltages on each side of the interconnection switch.

**15.10(4) *Access.*** If an isolation device is required by the utility, both the operator of the qualifying facility or AEP facility and the utility shall have access to the isolation device at all times. An interconnection customer may elect to provide the utility with access to an isolation device that is contained in a building or area that may be unoccupied and locked or not otherwise accessible to the utility by installing a lockbox provided by the utility that allows ready access to the isolation device. The lockbox shall be in a location determined by the utility to be accessible by the utility. The interconnection customer shall permit the utility to affix a placard in a location of the utility’s choosing that provides instructions to utility operating personnel for accessing the isolation device. If the utility needs to isolate the distributed generation facility, the utility shall not be held liable for any damages resulting from the actions necessary to isolate the generation facility.

**15.10(5) *Inspections.*** The operator of the qualifying facility or AEP facility shall adopt a program of inspection of the generator and its appurtenances and the interconnection facilities in order to determine necessity for replacement and repair. Representatives of the utility shall have access at all reasonable hours to the interconnection equipment specified in subrule 15.10(3) for inspection and testing.

**15.10(6) *Emergency disconnection.*** In the event that an electric utility or its customers experience problems of a type that could be caused by the presence of alternating currents or voltages with a frequency higher than 60 Hertz, the utility shall be permitted to open and lock the interconnection switch pending a complete investigation of the problem. Where the utility believes the condition creates a hazard to the public or to property, the disconnection may be made without prior notice. However, the

utility shall notify the operator of the qualifying facility or AEP facility by written notice and, where possible, verbal notice as soon as practicable after the disconnections.

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